

Continental Shelf contains nearly 86 billion barrels of oil, 86 billion barrels of oil. How much is that, Mr. Speaker? It's enough oil to replace OPEC imports for 50 years. We can gain that in an environmentally sensitive and sound way without threatening the environment.

On our side of the aisle, for the Republicans, when those votes have come up in the House, 81 percent of us have supported deep sea exploration for American energy for Americans. As for the other side of the aisle, when those votes have come up, 83 percent of House Democrats have opposed this.

So, as my friend Mr. WESTMORELAND has said, we are going to break it down pretty simply. Who wants to bring onshore oil on line for Americans? Who wants to bring deep water oil on line for Americans? Who wants to increase refining capacity in America? American energy for Americans, which Members of this body want to do that?

We've got a petition. We've got the pens at the ready, Mr. Speaker. All it takes is for Members to step up and to find their line and sign, and if they need help finding their line, we'll be glad to help them. It's important. It's important that the American people know that this body, the House of Representatives, appreciates the challenges that they're having right now at the gas pump, with filling up their cars and their vehicles, the difficulty of the truckers across this Nation in delivering the goods and services.

It's imperative that this House of Representatives addresses the issue of conservation, yes, alternative fuel, yes, but increasing supply. When you hear our friends on the other side of the aisle, they will say, well, there's already land that has been leased to the oil companies, and they aren't using it. Well, you're right. They're not using it because there's no oil underneath it. They need to go where the oil is, and the oil is demonstrated in the deep sea exploration that we ought to allow.

So, Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to stand here with my colleague who has brought forward the kind of clear evidence that Members of this House can demonstrate to their constituents back home and to their colleagues here in the House. It's time to increase American supply of American energy for Americans. I call on the leadership, on the Speaker of the House and on the leadership of the majority party—the Democrats—to bring those bills forward. Let us vote.

WELCOMING OLIVET BAPTIST CHURCH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) for 1 minute.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure today to welcome a group from my hometown, Olivet Baptist Church, hosted by their pastor, Kenneth Whalum, Jr.

Pastor Whalum's father, Pastor Kenneth Whalum, Sr., passed away last

year, and this House named the post office on South Third Street, the main post office in Memphis, in his memory.

He was a city councilman, an outstanding community leader, a clergyman of renown, and my friend. He has three sons—two musicians, one of whom is Kirk Whalum, as many of you know from his saxophone playing—and then his son, Pastor Kenneth Whalum, Jr., who serves on the Memphis City School Board and who is a political and ecumenical leader in the City of Memphis as well.

I welcome Olivet Baptist Church to the House of Representatives, and I give praise to them for helping me get here.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 50 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LARSEN of Washington) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

O God, who rules all the world from everlasting to everlasting, during the time given them, help this Congress to set a great agenda for this Nation and its future. Grasping a sense of the urgent needs of Your people, may this week provide a sense of priorities. May the desires of the common good overshadow particular concerns and personal preferences.

Inspire each Member to draw upon his or her best instinct and highest ideal so true goodness overcomes every evil and determined work whittles away at every problem, until this great Nation becomes Your living glory for all the world to see.

Show us the way, fill us with life, and let truth reign, both now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BOSWELL) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BOSWELL led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

IOWANS UNITED IN TIME OF TROUBLE

(Mr. BOSWELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOSWELL. Mr. Speaker, today I come to share with you that Iowa is in a lot of trouble. We have had extensive floods, the worst I have ever seen, in our part of the country, and it is devastating. Since I saw you last, I have spent hours and hours with the United Way, Red Cross, civic leaders, both city, county, State, emergency operations centers in and out, and so on, and it is really tough.

We have experienced that before in this Nation. In our Pledge we say "indivisible," and we are. This country will stand behind us, we know that, and we look forward to that possibility.

I fly an old airplane, and so I spent Saturday afternoon with one of my staff flying over the various cities, and a lot of them were really tough. When I flew down over Cedar Rapids low level and looked down upon the homes and businesses, at the devastation, the roads out, bridges, et cetera; over Iowa City, the university, with a lot of flooded buildings and so on; and then over to Ottumwa and back up the Des Moines River, it looked like a big lake. A lot of cropland is ruined, over 17 percent, maybe more, and will not produce this year.

So we need the help of the country. We need the help of this Congress. And I salute the people of Iowa for coming together. They have come together with determination. I asked one lady in the Emergency Operations Center after telling me all these things, I said, "How are you doing?" She said, "You know, we are like family. We have pulled together. We are going to do this, but we are going to have to have some help."

Mr. Speaker, I would hope today our Speaker and leaders will be ready to help Iowa and other States out there who are in dire need of help at this time.

HONORING WSKS, A PILLAR OF THE ASHE COMMUNITY

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a pillar of the Ashe County, North Carolina, community, WSKS radio and its owner Jan Caddell. Most of the Fifth District of North Carolina is a rural landscape, and beautiful, mountainous Ashe County is no exception.

As people who live in rural America well know, local radio stations are often the lifeblood of vital community life. WKSK radio is just such a radio station, and recent audience measurement results illustrate just that. According to these results, WKSK has the most loyal local audience in its home county of any station in North Carolina.

Next year, WKSK will celebrate the 50-year mark of service to the people of Ashe County. The fact that nearly 55 percent of listeners in Ashe tune their radios to WKSK, seven times more than the next closest station, is a true testament to the emphasis that WKSK places on serving Ashe County.

WKSK radio is a real community fixture, and I wish the station 50 more years of sterling service to the High Country.

EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT THE AIR FORCE TANKER CONTRACT AWARD

(Mr. CARNAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express concern about the Air Force's award of a \$35 billion contract to a foreign consortium which received over \$5 billion in foreign government subsidies.

Of concern is the Air Force defying its own ranking system, which awarded the Boeing Corporation 98 positive discriminators and Northrop Grumman-EADS only 30, yet the tanker contract went to EADS.

Boeing's 767 tanker had a positive survivability rating. EADS' aircraft had a negative rating. Yet the tanker contract went to EADS.

Boeing has manufactured over 2,000 tankers with advanced fly-by-wire booms; EADS, zero. Yet the tanker contract went to EADS.

The lifecycle cost of the EADS tanker is going to be billions and billions more than that of the Boeing aircraft, yet the tanker contract went to EADS.

We continue to face record fuel prices, and it is critical that the Air Force's next refueling tanker meet or exceed their requirements and be as efficient as possible. An independent study has determined that the Boeing KC-767 fleet burns 24 percent less fuel than the EADS A-330s.

For the sake of the American workers, the American economy and our national security, it is time to revisit this contract.

MARKING THE 78TH ANNIVERSARY OF SMOOT-HAWLEY

(Mr. HERGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 78th anniversary of perhaps the most disastrous economic legisla-

tion in our Nation's history, the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act of 1928. It set off a chain reaction of retaliatory tariffs that caused a sharp decline in global trade. Modern economists largely agree that it deepened the Great Depression.

Unfortunately, today this lesson seems to have gone largely unnoticed, judging by the isolationist course the Democrat House leadership is currently embracing. Expanded trade is critical to job creation and economic growth, it levels the playing field for U.S. workers, and is crucial to keeping our Nation as the world's number one economic trading powerhouse.

Mr. Speaker, the United States must reject the rising tide of economic isolationism and lead the world toward open markets.

WELCOMING PRIME MINISTER SERGEI STANISHEV OF BULGARIA

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as cochair of the Bulgaria Caucus, I rise today to welcome Prime Minister Sergei Stanishev of the Republic of Bulgaria to Washington.

Since the defeat of communism in Eastern Europe, Bulgaria has emerged as a dynamic democracy. The country became a part of NATO in 2004 and the European Union in 2007. Recently the World Bank classified Bulgaria as one of the top 10 nations to have undertaken important economic reforms to attract business investment. Bulgaria is the only EU nation to be listed in the top 10.

Since my first visit as an election observer in June 1990, I have seen firsthand the talented people of Bulgaria emerge from totalitarianism to be one of the world's most vibrant nations as a free market democracy. Elena Poptodorova, the able ambassador from Bulgaria, has been vital in developing Bulgarian-American friendships.

I especially wish to thank Bulgaria for their continued support in the global war on terrorism. I have visited Bulgarian troops in Afghanistan, and my son Alan served with Bulgarians in Iraq. Our Nation and the world is safer and more prosperous by defeating terrorism overseas.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th.

THE TUNNEL RAIDERS OF EGYPT

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, it seems like Indiana Jones is at it again. This time the search is on for the secret underground tunnels of Egypt.

The United States Army in Texas is training Egyptian soldiers to locate and destroy underground tunnels used

by criminals to smuggle arms from Egypt into the Gaza Strip. Our troops are out there teaching digging techniques to the Egyptians looking for the lost treasure tunnels of guns and rockets. We are doing this to help protect the borders of Israel and Egypt.

Meanwhile, the U.S.-Mexican border is still porous for underground smuggling. Since 9/11, more than 40 smuggling tunnels from Mexico to the United States have been discovered. Last year, the DEA located a high-tech, sophisticated concrete tunnel 85 feet underground filled with two tons of drugs. Law enforcement expects there to be more tunnels found.

Rather than just protecting the borders of other nations by training Egyptian tunnel raiders, maybe we ought to send the military to protect our own southern border from the underground secret tunnel invasion of guns, drugs and people coming into the United States without permission.

And that's just the way it is.

THE PRESIDENT SHOULD REVOKE BAN ON EXPLORATION OF THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF

(Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, oil prices climb to record highs; gasoline over \$4; diesel prices near \$5; family budgets stretched to the limits. And how do we handle this? We beg OPEC to produce more oil. The Saudis say they will give us 200,000 more barrels a day in the world market, but the daily world demand is 84 million barrels.

Hey, how about putting the U.S. in charge of our own economy? What about American energy? Sixty-four percent of Americans support American-made energy.

Today I will introduce a resolution calling upon the President to revoke a ban President Clinton extended in 1998 that prohibits exploration of our Outer Continental Shelf. The U.S. has the technology and regulatory framework to ensure that these resources are developed in an environmentally sound manner. The President has the power to remove this ban today, if he chooses.

I invite all my colleagues to cosponsor my resolution, and send a clear signal to the President and to the American people that we will help.

COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY POLICY NEEDED

(Mr. BISHOP of Utah asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, during the Second Continental Congress, John Adams wrote a letter to his wife, Abigail. He said, "I have always felt dissatisfied, but apparently now I seem to reek of discontent." He reeked of discontent because he knew what the right thing to do was, but he couldn't